2016 Major Achievements

The Society . . .

- Held our last program in the Lillian & Albert Small Jewish Museum on the 140th anniversary of the historic 1876 synagogue.

- Moved the synagogue 50 feet into the intersection of Third & G – the first step on its journey to a new home and the Society’s new Museum.


By the Numbers . . .

- 17 youth programs served 451 students.

- 3,275 adults participated in 81 programs at 30 venues.

- 19 donors contributed more than 100 photographs, 30 boxes of archival documents, and 14 objects to the archives.

- 70 historians, students, media outlets, organizations, and genealogists around the globe received answers to their research requests.

- 34,094 website visits from 148 countries, 3,263 YouTube video views, and 1,281 Facebook fans.

- 31 volunteers contributed more than 350 hours.

The publication of this Annual Report was made possible, in part, with support from the Rosalie Fonoroff Endowment Fund.
Leadership Message

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR WORK IN 2016!

Shakespeare wrote that “What’s past is prologue,” describing elegantly how history sets the context for the present. The same maxim describes the point at which the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington finds itself in 2017: moving forward to design, finance and ultimately build a wonderful new museum, archive, and venue for education, cultural enrichment and celebration, where we will tell the story of the vibrant Washington Jewish community in these multiple channels to create a prologue for things to come.

Within the next several years, our restored 1876 historical synagogue will be moved again to become the centerpiece of our new museum in the neighborhood where the local Jewish community first took root over a century-and-a-half ago. The Lillian & Albert Small Jewish Museum will be a cultural anchor in this newly-revitalized area that will be filled with other museums, restaurants, office/retail space and residential living. Every activity, event and action the Society now takes until the day we open our doors is going to reflect the process of transforming ourselves into this many-layered cultural institution.

As the work goes forward, your professional staff and lay leaders have carried on a rich calendar of programs and events.

The highlight of the year occurred in November, when the synagogue was moved to a temporary holding site, where it remains until its third and final move in a few years to its new home at 3rd & F Streets, NW.

Our archival collection was relocated to museum-quality, off-site storage even as the staff addressed research requests from around the globe and collected seven new oral histories.

Public programs continued uninterrupted throughout the year, with 3,275 attendees at 81 different programs and walking tours. School groups remained a sizable number of our visitors -- 451 students from twelve congregations and schools participated in Society programming.

Our annual Guardian-Benefactor Luncheon was a celebration of the Jewish food experience as we welcomed cookbook author Joan Nathan to share her thoughts on the local food scene. And in keeping with the Jewish food theme, our Annual Meeting showcased the popular PBS cooking show host and author Pati Jinich.

Finally, we bid farewell to longtime Executive Director, Laura Apelbaum, who resigned after 22 years of committed service. During her tenure, the Society expanded its activities on every level, gained a reputation for excellent programming and sound administration, and laid the groundwork for the successful completion of the new museum.

A Society search committee, aided by the firm Museum Search and Reference, conducted a nationwide search for a new Director. We are delighted that Kara Blond, Director of Exhibitions at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History, will join the Society in September 2017 as the Society’s new Executive Director. We are excited to work with Kara to help us realize our vision of preserving the past, marking the present, and looking to the future of Jewish Washington.

The Society continues to go from “strength to strength”: we have a full programming schedule, our financial picture is sound, we have a wonderful and committed staff and we are deep into planning for our future. As always, none of this is possible without the financial support and personal resources that you provide, and we are deeply grateful for your support.

Our past is, truly, prologue. I hope you will continue to join us in this exciting adventure and I look forward to seeing you at the Society’s events in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Russell Smith
President
A MOVING YEAR: The Synagogue’s Story

OUR HISTORIC SYNAGOGUE – the Lillian & Albert Small Jewish Museum – is the oldest Jewish house of worship in the Washington area. Built by Adas Israel Congregation at Sixth & G Streets, NW as its first synagogue, it was dedicated on June 9, 1876.

The congregation soon outgrew the building and, in 1908, sold the synagogue and erected a new home close-by at Sixth & I Streets, NW. A succession of retail shops and churches used the original synagogue until the 1960s, when it was marked for demolition to make way for Metro’s new headquarters.

In 1969, the Jewish Historical Society, working with the D.C. and federal governments, saved the synagogue, moving it three blocks to a new site at Third & G Streets, NW.

Community contributions and a major gift from Lillian & Albert Small helped to restore the synagogue.

For the next four decades, the historic synagogue – listed on the National Register of Historic Places – was open for a steady stream of visitors, public programs, and school children.

As part of Capitol Crossing, a $1.3 billion mixed-use, downtown development over I-395, the synagogue will move one block south to the corner of Third & F Streets, NW where it will become the focal point of our new Jewish museum. This year marked the first step on that journey, as the synagogue moved to a temporary site to accommodate the construction work.
PREPARATION FOR THE MOVE

The Society’s entire archival collection – including more than 500 artifacts, hundreds of boxes of documents and photographs, historic pews from area congregations, and two stained glass windows – were carefully packed and moved.

Sections of the Gichner Ironworks fence that surrounded the synagogue also went into storage.

Construction workers bricked up the lower windows and doorways and covered the upper windows with plywood.

Workers from Balfour Beatty Construction removed the synagogue’s 1975 cornerstone for safekeeping.

Fine art handlers loading a historic pew into the moving truck.

There used to be a winding staircase here! After interior fixtures, drywall, and the staircases were removed, plywood walls were constructed to help brace the interior during the move.

The archival collection and all of the synagogue furnishings – including the chandelier – are now safely stored in a museum-quality offsite storage facility.
Capital Campaign

We are deeply grateful for early expressions of support for the goals of the Capital Campaign from the following:

Anonymous
Carolyn Small Alper
Andrew Ammerman
Laura & Perry Apelbaum
Steve Blacher
The Estate of Molly & Henry Brylawski
and gifts in memory of Henry Brylawski
Sam Brylawski & Gail Sonnemann
Alfred Burka Family Trust
Gail Burlant
The Samuel Burtoff, M.D. Foundation
Dorothy A. Canter
Margie & Mickey Elsberg
Lois & Richard* England
Lois & Richard England Family Foundation
Patrick & Tracey Gallagher
Linda Silverman Herman, Jerry, David, & Erika Herman
Michael Goldstein & Susan Bales
The Gordon Foundation
Paul Greenberg & Richard Billingsley
Alexandra & Michael Horowitz
Wilma Probst Levy & Louis Levy
Patrick Loughney
Ernest L. & Madalyn Marcus
Howard Morse & Laura Loeb
Brenda K. & Paul Pascal
Adam Robinson & Susan Weinstein
Robert, Pat, Elliott, & Bennett Silverman
Myrna Sislen & Bill Rice
Russell & Judy Smith
Gene Sofer & Judith Bartnoff
Hadassah Thursz
John A. Tolleris
Diane Abelman Wattenberg
Alfred Munzer & Joel Wind
Laurence Wiseman & Robin Jeweler
Robert & Phyllis Halpern Wolff
Paul Wright
Marlene Zakai
Pat & Stuart Zuckerman

*TWO DAYS BEFORE THE MOVE. Wolfe House and Building Movers cut the synagogue from its foundation and slowly lifted it onto a temporary foundation of steel beams and cribbing.

Remote-controlled dollies were placed underneath the synagogue as the final preparation.
ON NOVEMBER 3, 2016, in front of a crowd of nearly 250 people, the historic synagogue rolled 50 feet to its temporary home in the middle of Third Street, NW, safely out of the way of the new construction.

At a program inside the Judiciary Square Federal Building, Society Treasurer Howard Morse welcomed guests and spoke about the Society’s future plans.

Rabbi Gil Steinlauf of Adas Israel Congregation recited a traveler’s prayer for his congregation’s original home as it began its slow and careful journey to its temporary resting place.

Throughout the event the Society posted live updates on the Society’s Facebook and Twitter accounts, and recorded live video interviews with supporters and neighbors.

In the next few years the synagogue will be lifted a third time and moved to its permanent home one block south at the corner of Third and F Streets, NW, where it will regain its original orientation facing east towards Jerusalem. There, it will become the focal point of a new, state-of-the-art Jewish museum.

The new museum building, designed by SmithGroup JJR, will be a welcoming place, showcasing the Washington region’s Jewish life and heritage. New spaces – including a core exhibition, gallery for traveling and temporary exhibitions, a children and family gallery, and a mixed-use program room, mean new opportunities for teaching, learning, sharing, remembering, and imagining our community.

Onlookers included JHSGW Board members Stuart Zuckerman, Adam Rubinson, Howard Morse, Albert H. Small, Jr., Ernie Marcus, and Albert H. Small.
Programs and Activities

81 programs served 3,275 participants at 30 venues

“Last Call” Program Series featured events in the historic synagogue before its move.

140th Anniversary of 1876 Synagogue Dedication
The last public program in the synagogue, held on June 9, featured the Evelyn Greenberg awards, given to those who saved a significant resource related to Washington’s Jewish history.

Saadia Greenberg opened the program with memories about his mother, Evelyn Greenberg, and her passion for preserving Washington’s Jewish history – including the historic synagogue!

ANC Commissioner Kent Boese received an award for his work protecting the former Hebrew Home on Spring Road, NW. L to R: Kent Boese, Abbey Fagin of Charles E. Smith Life Communities, and Gretchen Pfahler, Chair of the D.C. Historic Preservation Review Board.

Filmmaker Stephanie Slewka, shown here in the synagogue garden with her family, received an award for her work in preserving the city’s only known synagogue mural in her 415 M Street home.

Society Past President Bernard Glassman was also honored for his leadership in helping to save and move the historic synagogue in 1969.

This anniversary program was supported by generous gifts from Paula Goldman in honor of her husband Aaron Goldman’s birthday (z’l) and Sharon Chard-Yaron in honor of her father Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz’s birthday (z’l).
Insider’s Look
Hetty Berg, Chief Curator of the Jewish Historical Museum in Amsterdam, spoke to a lunchtime crowd in the synagogue about her museum’s exhibitions, collections, and programs. Special guests included diplomats from the Embassy of the Netherlands.

Women’s History Month
Dr. Pamela Nadell, Professor and Patrick Clendenen Chair in Women’s and Gender History and Director of the Jewish Studies program at American University, spoke about the lives of Jewish women immigrants in her talk “Tevye’s Daughters in America.”

Program attendees received a peek inside our archives to see objects in our collection related to women’s history.

Exhibitions
Our most recent exhibition, *Voices of the Vigil*, details the local Soviet Jewry movement of the 1960s-1990s, highlighting the 20-year daily vigil outside the Soviet Embassy. The exhibition ended its two-year tour at Temple Rodef Shalom in February 2016. Visit our website or email info@jhsgw.org for information about bringing *Voices of the Vigil* and related programming to your school, synagogue, or community space.

*This women’s history program was supported by the Schiffer Family in memory of their mother, Clara Schiffer.*
Jewish American Heritage Month

Dr. Gary Zola at the National Archives
Dr. Gary Zola, Executive Director of the American Jewish Archives, spoke with Erin Carlson Mast, Executive Director at President Lincoln's Cottage, at the National Archives about his book, *We Called Him Rabbi Abraham: Lincoln and American Jewry*. The talk was later broadcast on C-SPAN.

Program supported by gifts from Brenda & Paul Pascal, David Bruce Smith, and Sandra & Jon Willen.

Insider’s Talk with Dr. Gary Zola
Dr. Zola shared insights in a lunchtime lecture in the synagogue about his work at the American Jewish Archives and the role of archives in preserving history.

56th Annual Meeting at Adas Israel Congregation
Pati Jinich, host of the popular PBS cooking show, *Pati's Mexican Table*, spoke about how her Mexican-Jewish identity has shaped her cooking in an interview with Bonnie S. Benwick, deputy food editor for *The Washington Post*. The reception featured Pati’s recipes and a silent auction which raised over $1,000 to support JHSGW’s educational programs.

New Year’s & Hanukkah Klezmer Concert
We rang in the New Year and celebrated Hanukkah with a Klezmer Concert in late December. This annual event was held at Holy Rosary Church, our neighbors just down the street from the synagogue. With nearly 100 participants, this was the best-attended concert ever!
Partnership Events

Jewish Museum of Maryland
Bus trip to Baltimore to visit the exhibition, *Beyond Chicken Soup: Jews & Medicine in America.*
In partnership with the Foundation for Jewish Studies.

Library of Congress
Partnered with the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington and the Library’s Hebraic Section for a talk featuring genealogy researcher Dr. Janette Silverman.

Folger Shakespeare Library
JHSGW staff gave a talk on Jewish involvement in the Civil War as part of the CrossTalk program series.

German American Heritage Museum

Participated in special program, *Kaisertreu: The Descendants of German-Jewish War Veterans Speak,* held in conjunction with the exhibition *Lawyers Without Rights: Jewish Lawyers in Germany under the Third Reich.*
In partnership with the National Museum of American Jewish Military History.

Edlavitch Jewish Community Center of Washington, D.C.
Partnered on a book talk with Tom Davis and Martin Frost, authors of *The Partisan Divide: Congress in Crisis.*
Co-presented two films with the Washington Jewish Film Festival

Take me out to the ballgame!
Participated in The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington’s *Grand Slam Sunday Jewish Community Day* at Nationals Park.
Special Activities

- Drop-in visitors to the Lillian & Albert Small Jewish Museum included visitors from as far away as Brazil, Israel, and England. Special guests included Danielle Spera, Director of the Jewish Museum Vienna, and visitors from the German Embassy.

- Society members and guests enjoyed a curator-led tour of *Esther Bubley Up Front*, an exhibition featuring work by the Jewish photojournalist, at the National Museum of Women in the Arts.

- Jewish law enforcement officers from across the country enjoyed their annual Shomrim Society reception in the synagogue during National Police Week.

- The Society hosted Father Steve Zorzos and members of Saint Sophia’s Greek Orthodox Cathedral for a special “coming home” visit to the historic synagogue. The congregation was housed in the synagogue from 1910-1920. Father Joachim Alexopoulos. Father Alexopoulos, the Archbishop of Volos, saved over 700 Greek Jews during the Holocaust. He was the priest of St. Sophia’s Greek Orthodox Church when the congregation worshipped in our synagogue.

Speakers Bureau

Staff and board members lectured for groups throughout the region

*Maryland*
- Bender JCC Senior Lunch Group
- Brandeis National Committee of Greater Washington
- B’nai Israel Congregation
- Live & Learn Bethesda
- Oseh Shalom Lifelong Learning Committee

*Washington, D.C.*
- Folger Shakespeare Library

*Virginia*
- Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation, Reston
- Tikvat Israel Congregation, Fairfax
- Uriah Levy Chapter of B’nai B’rith, Fairfax

JHSGW lecturers are available to speak about several topics:

- Jewish Washington: Scrapbook of an American Community
- Voices of the Vigil: D.C.’s Soviet Jewry Movement
- Jewish Life in Washington and Alexandria during the Civil War
- NEW! New Museum Workshop

*NEW! New Museum Workshop*

Learn more about the Society’s plans for its new museum and get a sneak peek inside our collection.

Contact JHSGW at info@jhsgw.org or (202) 789-0900 to book a speaker for your group today!
Walking Tours
25 walking tours served 406 visitors

The Society led private tours for the following groups:

District of Columbia
- American University undergraduates
- Austrian Embassy staff
- EntryPointDC of the Edlavitch Jewish Community Center of Washington, D.C. young professionals
- Georgetown University Law Students
- German Embassy architecture group
- GW Textile Museum docents
- Hill Havurah
- NOVA Tribe Series young professionals
- Program in Experiential Education & Jewish Cultural Arts at GW
- Sixth and I Historic Synagogue
- Cultural Tourism DC’s WalkingTown DC

Virginia
- Beth El Hebrew Congregation
- Congregation Beth Emeth

Maryland
- Blank Family
- B’nai Israel Congregation
- Charles E. Smith Life Communities Landow House
- Charles E. Smith Life Communities Ring House
- Jewish Community Center of Washington, D.C.
- EntryPointDC
- Presiding, Jewish Film Festival
- Folger Shakespeare Library
- Foundation for Jewish Studies
- German-American Heritage Museum
- Hill Havurah
- Historical Society of Washington, D.C.
- Holy Rosary Church
- Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington
- Jewish War Veterans of the USA
- Library of Congress
- National Archives
- National Museum of American Jewish History
- NOVA Tribe Series
- President Lincoln’s Cottage
- Sixth & I Historic Synagogue
- Temple Sinai
- The George Washington University Museum & The Textile Museum
- The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington
- Jewish Food Experience

Visit www.jhsgw.org for more information. Contact JHSGW at info@jhsgw.org or (202) 789-0900 to book a walking tour for your group today!
Youth Programs

17 youth programs served 451 students

Youth Program Opportunities
Educational programs are designed for students in grades 3-12.

In Your Classroom

An Immigrant Story: (3rd - 7th grades): Students learn about the Jewish immigrant experience in Washington, D.C., at the end of the 19th century by analyzing primary source materials, including photographs, letters, and documents.

Walking Tours
Step back in time by exploring Jewish sites in downtown Washington, Old Town Alexandria, H Street, NE or Arlington National Cemetery.

Visit www.jhsgw.org/education or contact us at info@jhsgw.org or (202) 789-0900 to learn more about these programs or book an experience for your class!
Archives

New Acquisitions

Andrew Ammerman
Assorted family photographs and documents, including this photograph signed by all nine Justices of the Supreme Court, 1925. L to R: front: James Clark McReynolds, Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr., William Howard Taft, Willis Van Devanter, Louis Brandeis. L to R: back: Edward Sanford, George Sutherland, Pierce Butler, Harlan Fiske Stone. Photographer is Harris & Ewing. Washington, D.C.

Laura Apelbaum
Five political buttons from her teenage collection, 1970s.

Bobbie Berger
Framed photograph of Glienicke Bridge, Germany, with inset photograph of Natan Sharansky as he walked across the bridge on February 11, 1986.

Mitchell Berliner
Marketing materials, menus, correspondence, and canvas banner from Berliner Farm Stand and Central Farm Market, 1971-2014.

Steve Blacher
Blacher family photographs and documents; Brandeis Club ledger, 1956.

Ellen Epstein

Ann & Frank Gilbert
Oil painting, “Portrait of Louis Dembitz Brandeis” by Joseph Margulies.

Paula Goldman
Matchbooks from Macke Corporation, Arbaughs, and Harvey’s Restaurant.

Marcia Levinsohn

Bruce Mencher
Receipt on letterhead of Dr. Leo Seidenberger for medicine prescribed to Leon Robbin, November 3, 1938; photographs.

While visiting Nuremberg, Germany on business, Leon Robbin sought medical treatment from a local Jewish doctor and received this prescription. The yellow star indicates that Dr. Leo Seidenberger was only allowed to treat Jewish patients. The prescription is dated just a few days before Kristallnacht. In a letter home a week later, Robbin wrote, “The U.S. quota list for Germany is now seven years behind, but there will be no Jews alive in Germany in seven years at the present rate.”

Eugene Meyer
Research papers for articles on Posin’s Bakery, Higgers Pharmacy, Phi Delta Sorority, and Washington-area synagogues.

Naomi & Nehemiah Cohen Foundation
15 linear feet of archival documents and photographs documenting the history of Giant Food, 1950s-1990s.

Giant store #24 in Alexandria, Virginia, 1950s.

Steve Rabinowitz
Political buttons from 2016 presidential election.

Elizabeth Rich
Store sign from Rich’s Shoe store; photographs, accounting ledgers, certificates, and correspondence pertaining to Rich’s Shoes and Frank Rich, Sr.

Hilda Rubin
Material on the Yiddish theater troupe “Di Shpilers.”

Danny Siegel

Michael Tabor
Correspondence, minutes, newsletters, and other publications related to Michael Tabor’s work in Jews for Urban Justice, Fabrangen, and other Jewish organizations, 1960s-1980s.

Tifereth Israel Congregation
Cookbooks created by Tifereth Israel, 2004 and 2013.

John Tolleris
Political campaign materials from 2004 and 2016 presidential campaigns.
Conservation Concerns

Internet Search leads to preservation treatment!

BEFORE

AFTER

Janet Cohen contacted JHSGW after seeing our online Civil War exhibit while conducting genealogical research on her family. The bride named on the ketubah is Bettie Dreifus, sister of Cohen’s great-grandfather. She married Henry Baum in 1862. Janet donated funds to support the conservation treatment of this fragile document – one of the oldest in our collection.

Quarto Conservation of Books and Paper, Inc gently removed the old tape and the residual adhesive, repaired the losses, and carefully re-housed the document so it will be preserved for years to come.

CONSERVATION WISH LIST:

Help us preserve some of our most treasured objects!

Immigration Record of Behrend Family - $800
This 1849 travel document lists Bernhard and Sarah Behrend and their nine children preparing to leave Germany to make a new life in America.

Preservation Needs: Cleaning, mending tears, deacidification

Simon Wolf Autograph Books - $3,000
Simon Wolf was one of the most influential American Jewish leaders of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. For his 70th birthday, Wolf’s daughter created three books containing more than 400 personal messages to Wolf from local and national leaders -- such as this page from President Theodore Roosevelt.

Needs: Bindings are extremely fragile and require stabilization; pages require preservation scanning

Oral Histories - $1,000
The Society interviewed 25 long-term Jewish residents of Washington between 1980-1982. The resulting oral histories provide wonderfully detailed first-hand accounts of community history and early-mid 20th-century Jewish life. The cassette tapes originally used to record these precious interviews are fast deteriorating; converting them to a digital format will help preserve them and make them accessible for a new generation.

Research Requests

The Society’s archivists responded to 70 research requests for information and material about individuals, businesses, synagogues, organizations, and neighborhoods.

We assisted the following academic institutions, organizations, businesses, and media outlets:

Washington, D.C.:
- Anacostia Community Museum, Smithsonian Institution
- Bihur Holim Society
- Edlavitch Jewish Community Center of Washington, D.C.
- Georgetown University Law School
- Hill Havurah
- Kennedy Street Development Association
- Leo M. Bernstein Family Foundation
- Tifereth Israel
- United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
- The Washington Post
- WETA (TV-26)

Maryland:
- Chizuk Amuno Congregation, Baltimore
- The Foundation for Jewish Studies, Rockville
- Jewish Social Service Agency, Rockville
- Jewish Virtual Library, Chevy Chase
- Washington Jewish Week, Rockville

Virginia:
- Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, Fairfax
- University of Virginia, Charlottesville

Other:
- American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons (ACFAS), Chicago, IL
- Association For Jewish Studies (AJS), New York, NY
- Beit Hatfutsot-The Museum of the Jewish People, Tel Aviv, Israel
- Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI
- Judisk Krónika (Jewish magazine), Stockholm, Sweden
- Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
- University of Haifa, Haifa, Israel
- University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
We added seven new oral histories to our archives.

Marione Ingram, local activist, author, and Holocaust survivor, shared how her early years in Germany, survival of the Holocaust, and immigration to the United States led to her activism.

Civil rights lawyer Philip Hirschkop is best-known for his work on *Loving v. Virginia*, the groundbreaking 1967 Supreme Court case that declared anti-miscegenation laws, which enforced racial segregation in marriage and other interpersonal relationships, unconstitutional. In his interview, he spoke about his advocacy and how his activism is rooted in his Jewish heritage and upbringing. This oral history was made possible by generous support from Margie & Mickey Elsberg.

Helen Tsintolas shared stories about her family, who were members of Saint Sophia’s Greek Orthodox Church when it was housed in our synagogue in the early 20th-century. Tsintolas spoke about Greek community life and how she got involved in researching the history of the 1876 historic synagogue.

Oral Histories

Yiddish of Greater Washington Oral History Project

The Marinus & Minna Koster Family Foundation provided grant funds to conduct oral histories documenting the organization Yiddish of Greater Washington. The five interviews we conducted greatly enhanced our knowledge of how Yiddish language, culture, and tradition have been kept alive in Washington.

Marcia Levinsohn spoke Yiddish as a child and re-learned it as an adult. In addition to teaching and writing children’s stories in Yiddish, she translated Eric Carle’s *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* into Yiddish.

Hilda Rubin grew up in a section of a Bronx housing complex that was full of Yiddish intellectuals and artists. She became involved in Yiddish theater after moving to Washington in 1972.

Shelby Shapiro learned Yiddish after hearing a lecture on Yiddish-speaking Jewish anarchists. He became active as editor of the Yiddish of Greater Washington newsletter.

Jonathan Sunshine attended a Workmen’s Circle school as a child, where he was taught Yiddish. He co-founded Yiddish of Greater Washington after moving to the area in 1973.

Max Ticktin taught Yiddish and Hebrew literature at George Washington University from 1979 to 2014 and founded a Yiddish reading group which lasted more than 30 years. This interview took place in 2015.
Membership

Each year our generous members provide critical operating funds, enabling the Society to expand our archival holdings, adult and school programs, publications, and outreach to the community.

Guardian-Benefactor Program

The generosity of the Society’s Guardian-Benefactor members provides the funds necessary to continue restoration of the historic 1876 synagogue, preserve community history, and offer dynamic exhibitions and educational programs.

Upper-level memberships include:

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<th>Membership Level</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Benefactor</td>
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Benefactor-Heritage Luncheon

This exclusive Society event for contributors at the $2,500 level and above offers access to special venues and educational opportunities.

This year, Heritage, Legacy, and Benefactor members enjoyed a specially prepared luncheon at Equinox Restaurant with co-owners Chef Todd & Ellen Kassoff Gray, authors of The New Jewish Table.

Guardian-Benefactor Luncheon

This year’s luncheon, attended by nearly 200 members and guests at the Ritz-Carlton West End, featured award-winning cookbook author Joan Nathan, who entertained guests with stories on the changing food scene in our city.

At the luncheon, longtime supporter and Honorary Director Lois England was honored for her commitment to the Society and the new museum.


MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Want to help preserve local Jewish heritage and participate in Society events? Join the Society today!

Individual ($36) and Family/Dual ($54)
- Invitations and discounts to select events including book talks, lectures, panel discussions, and walking tours

Donors ($100)
Receive all of the benefits above, plus:
- A North American Reciprocal Museum Card which provides membership benefits over 900 museums across the continent

Patrons ($150) and Sponsors ($300 level)
Receive all of the benefits above, plus:
- Priority on archival research requests

Trustees ($500 level)
Receive all of the benefits above, plus:
- Seating for two at annual donor recognition event

Guardians ($1,000)
Receive all of the benefits above, plus:
- Preferred seating for two at annual donor recognition event

Historians ($1,800)
Receive all of the benefits above, plus:
- Preferred seating for four at annual donor recognition event

Heritage ($2,500)
Receive all of the benefits above, plus:
- Premium seating for six at annual donor recognition event
- Invitation to an exclusive program for the Society’s inner circle of benefactors

Legacy ($5,000) and Benefactor ($10,000)
Receive all of the benefits above, plus:
- Premium seating at annual donor recognition event for eight (Legacy)/ten (Benefactor)
- Invitation to an exclusive program for the Society’s inner circle of benefactors

For more information:
- Call (202) 789-0900
- Email info@jhsfw.org
- Visit www.jhsgw.org/join

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Membership at the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington begins at just $36 for an individual and $54 for a family. At the $100 level, members also receive the North American Reciprocal Museum card which provides membership benefits to over 900 museums across the continent.

California
Seth Ammerman

Florida
The Hon. Marvin & Betty Morse

Israel
Michail Woods

Maryland
Devora & Samuel Arbel
Elyse Bernstein
Eric Biel & Dana Rosenfeld
Marjorie Blumberg
Ruth Brinn
Wicca & David Davidson
Loretta & Scott Feldman
Pati & Daniel Jinich
Deborah & Mark Joseph
Barbara & Richard Kaufman
Eve & David Mills
Lionel Pashkoff
Nancy & Robert Reiner
Eve & Richard Robins
Adriana & Alan Sandler
Gail Singer & Ira Russcol

Virginia
The Hon. Martin & JoEllen Frost
Sharon Justice
Sean Regan
Lisa & Mark Schneider
Paul Shaman
Gail & Bob Shor
Scott & Susan Sirlin
Daphne & Gary Steinberg
Jennifer Skalka Tulumello & Andrew Tulumello

Washington, D.C.
Jodi Blecker
Arlene Brown
Patricia Salas & Harlan Cohen
David Levey
Michael Lipin
The Hon. Bruce Mencher
Jack Pearlstein & Marisol LaMadrid
Sharon Polansky & Jeff Herbst
Julie Rabinowitz & Joel Fischman
Debbie Ruskin
Michael Russell
The Hon. Carol Schwartz
Roz Seidenstein
Jane Steiber
Charlotte Streidel
In the News

Links to full articles can be found at www.jhsgw.org/newsroom/2016.

Synagogue Move and New Museum
Numerous newspaper, radio, television, and online news outlets reported on the move of the 1876 historic synagogue and plans for the new museum.

- Associated Press picked up by media in California, Connecticut, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Virginia, and Washington, DC
- DCist
- District Citizen
- Engineering News-Record
- Germany.info
- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- NBCWashington
- Tablet Magazine
- The New York Times
- The Washington Post
- The Washington Times
- Voice of America
- WAMU 88.5
- Washington Business Journal
- Washington Jewish Week
- Washingtonian
- WJLA ABC7
- WUSA 9

Local Coverage
The Washington Jewish Week covered Society events and programs throughout the year, including our First Night Klezmer concert and Benefactor-Heritage Luncheon.
Publications

Jewish Washington: Scrapbook of an American Community
Companion to our award-winning exhibition, this book is the comprehensive source on Jewish life in Washington from 1795 to the present.

Jewish Life in Mr. Lincoln’s City
Stories of Jewish Washington and Alexandria during the Civil War introduced by leading historian Dr. Jonathan Sarna and accompanied by essays from prominent scholars.

Pocket Guide to Jewish Sites in Arlington National Cemetery
A joint project with the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington, this booklet highlights sites of Jewish interest at Arlington National Cemetery.

Voices of the Vigil
This catalog features 90 images and text from our award-winning exhibition on the Soviet Jewry movement, as well as a memoir by Natan Sharansky and recollections of Ambassador Richard Schifter.

Purchase a case of books for confirmation or bar/bat mitzvah gifts, or to present to special guests and speakers at your organization. Please inquire for details on discounts on bulk purchases!

To order these publications:
• Visit www.jhsgw.org/store
• Call (202) 789-0900
• Email info@jhsgw.org

Get Connected!
Go behind the scenes of recent events, exhibitions, and our archival collection. Learn about special programs, media spotlights, and local and national Jewish history announcements.

• Join our email list by emailing: info@jhsgw.org
  68 emails reached more than 2,800 subscribers
• Visit our website: http://www.jhsgw.org
  34,094 visits, 80% new visitors
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  We reach over 1280 followers
• Follow our Twitter feed: http://www.twitter.com/jhsgw
  Tweets viewed average of 376 times per day
• Watch our Youtube videos: http://www.youtube.com/jhsgw
  3,263 video views
• Browse our Pinterest boards: http://www.pinterest.com/jhsgw
  Over 4,000 people see our content monthly

Professional Development

Society staff participated in the following:

Conferences
• American Alliance of Museums Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.
• Council of American Jewish Museums Annual Meeting, New York

Professional development
• The Chronicle of Philanthropy: “Making the Most of Your Mid-level Donors”
• American Association for State and Local History
  – What Did We Know? Citizen History, Local Newspapers, and the Holocaust
• George Washington University Museum: Ghetto/Metro: Race, Religion, and the Place of Community in Postwar Urbanism
Grants and Contributions

Competitive Grants

• D.C. Commission on the Arts & Humanities – $1,600 for First Night Klezmer Concert
• Jewish Federation of Greater Washington’s Jewish Food Experience – $1,200 to support Jewish food-related programming

In Appreciation

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR MAJOR SUPPORTERS

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We are deeply grateful for early expressions of support for the goals of the Capital Campaign from the following:

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In honor of Robert & Arlene Kogod
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Special Gifts
We are grateful for these additional gifts in support of our programs and activities.

Women's History Month Lecture
Susan Schiffer, Lois Schiffer, & Nancy Miller in memory of their mother, Clara Schiffer

Jewish American Heritage Month
Brenda K. & Paul Pascal
David Bruce Smith
Sandra & Jon Willen

Evelyn Greenberg Award Ceremony
Lily & Saadia Greenberg
Dr. Sharron Chard-Yaron in memory of her grandfather, Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz
Paula Goldman in honor of Aaron Goldman’s birthday

General Operating Support
Sam Brylawski & Gail Sonnemann
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Russell & Judy Smith

Restoration of 1862 Ketubah
Janet Cohen

* Of blessed memory
Planned Giving

For more than 55 years the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington has collected, preserved, and told our stories to keep our history alive. From the arrival of the first Jewish resident in 1795 to the German-speaking Jews who formed the first congregation before the Civil War...

From the Eastern European immigrants in the late 19th century to the influx of Jewish New Dealers and those serving during World War II...

Today, our Jewish community numbers more than 215,000 – the seventh-largest in the country – living in Washington and its suburbs of Maryland and Northern Virginia.

These stories are the rich and vibrant content of our archives, our exhibitions, and our programs.

A planned gift can be your legacy to the Washington Jewish community
Including the Society in your estate plans is a simple way of providing the resources to continue sharing our stories and preserving our history.

To recognize those who have designated the Society as a beneficiary of a planned gift, we have established The 1876 Society, which commemorates the year the Society’s historic synagogue, now the Lillian & Albert Small Jewish Museum, was dedicated.

Charitable Bequests may take many forms:
• Specifying a gift for the Society in your will
• Naming the Society as a beneficiary of the proceeds from an IRA or other retirement vehicle
• Naming the Society as the beneficiary of an existing life insurance policy

The Society’s partnership with The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington enables our supporters to establish endowments and funds to benefit the Society through The United Jewish Endowment Fund.

If you have included the Society in your estate plans or for more information about the 1876 Society, please contact the office at 202-789-0900.

* Of blessed memory
Annual Giving

Gifts that provide financial support for ongoing Society activities and community-wide programs throughout the year are received with immense gratitude.

Cash Gifts
Checks may be mailed to JHSGW at P.O. Box 791104 Baltimore, MD 21279-1104.
To donate via credit card, please visit us online at http://jhsgw.org/join/contribute or contact the office at 202-789-0900.

Matching Gifts
Many employers match charitable gifts, enabling you to double or triple your donation. Speak to your personnel office about its matching gift program.

Stocks or Securities
Stocks and publicly traded securities can offer tax advantages. By contributing stock directly to the Society, you avoid capital gains tax. Please advise us when you donate stock so we can track and acknowledge your gift.

Retirement Plan Assets
Gifts from your IRA or other retirement plans may be made by naming the Society a beneficiary on a Designation of Beneficiary form.

Combined Federal Campaign (CFC #97800)
Federal employees may designate JHSGW as a recipient of contributions made through the annual CFC program. JHSGW is listed under headings for “Arts, Culture and Humanities” as well as “Educational Institutions and Related Activities” in the CFC Booklet.

Gift Spotlight

GWEN ZUARES has notified the Society of her intent to leave a planned gift in her will. A long-time member of the Society, Gwen served on the Board of Directors from 2008-2016, including a term as member-at-large on the Executive Committee.

“Everything the Society does is worthwhile, enriching, and exciting.”

Gwen excels at bringing people and organizations together and frequently brings guests to the Society’s annual Guardian luncheon to introduce new friends to the Society’s work. An active member of Magen David Congregation and the American Sephardic Jewish community, Gwen was recently awarded Moment Magazine’s 2016 Cultural Ambassador Award.

Gwen feels strongly about her support of the Society: “Since its inception in the early 1960s, the Society has collected our Jewish history ... The Society and the Museum MUST continue as institutions, MUST grow, and MUST be a vital part of Jewish life in the nation’s capital.”
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MEET THE BOARD: NEW MEMBERS IN 2017

Jerry Bass
is a native Washingtonian. His grandparents were members of Adas Israel Congregation when it prayed at the historic 1876 synagogue. Jerry recently retired as the CFO of The George Washington University Medical Center. He serves on the Society’s Finance Committee.

Dorothy Canter
grew up in Washington’s Shepherd Park. She has worked for the National Institute of Environmental Health Science, US Environmental Protection Agency, Johns Hopkins University, and is the principal at Dorothy Canter Consulting, LLC. Dorothy previously served on the Society’s board from 2012-2015.

Gene Sofer
is a co-founder of The Susquehanna Group, a Washington, DC-based consulting company. He previously served as Director of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations for the Corporation for National Service and as Deputy Director of The President’s Advisory Commission on Holocaust Assets in the U.S.

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2016 Board of Directors
SUMMARY STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES for the year ended December 31, 2016

Revenue and Support:

- Contributions and grants: $1,089,455
- Membership dues: 312,985
- Net investment income: 253,362
- In-kind contributions: 106,864
- Educational and program fees: 28,920
- Real estate transfer income: 9,000,000
- Relocation delay fees: 540,000
- Gain on sale of 4th Street Bldg: 1,131,778
- Rental Income (4th Street Bldg): 46,279

TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT: $12,509,643

Expenses:

- Administrative: $210,381
- Fundraising: 180,003
- Museum: 57,714
- Exhibits, Archival, and Education: 660,941

TOTAL EXPENSES: $1,109,039

ENDOWMENTS

The Lillian and Albert Small Museum Endowment Fund
The Lois and Richard England Perpetual Endowment Fund
The Doris and Robert I. Silverman Endowment Fund
The Edith and Charles Pascal Endowment Fund
The Aaron and Paula Goldman Endowment Fund
The Morris and Helen Cladny Endowment Fund
The Behrend-Nordlinger-Goldstein Endowment Fund
The Alper Education Endowment
The Fonoroff Endowment
The Herman-Silverman Family Endowment Fund
Sidney (Vigderhouse) and Roxey Kurlen-Hais Endowment Fund
The Margot Heckman Endowment
The Faye F. and Sheldon S. Cohen Endowment

PRINCIPAL TOTAL: $882,558
### SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  December 31, 2016

#### ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and equivalents</td>
<td>$1,496,931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>$13,229,822</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts and pledges receivable, net</td>
<td>$644,241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and equipment, net</td>
<td>$792,039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>$7,021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL ASSETS**  

$16,170,054

#### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

**Liabilities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>$213,752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue and tenant deposits</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES**  

$214,252

**Net Assets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>$12,897,668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>$2,175,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
<td>$882,558</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL NET ASSETS**  

$15,955,802

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**  

$16,170,054

The complete financial statements, including the audit report of our independent accountants, UHY, LLP are available by contacting the Society’s office at (202) 789-0900 or at info@jhsgw.org. Copies of our complete audit are also available.
**Interns and Volunteers**

**Special thanks to those volunteers whose outstanding dedication and support make our work possible.**

**INTERNS**

**Stephen Biegel**  
Florida State University,  
*English Literature, Art History, and Museum Studies B.A. candidate*  
Stephan conducted research and created presentations based on our collections. He also led a walking tour with (cardboard cut-out) President Ulysses S. Grant.

**Rebecca Friedman**  
Johns Hopkins University,  
*History B.A. candidate*  
Rebecca conducted valuable research at the Washingtoniana Collection of the D.C. Public Library.

**Michael Morris**  
The George Washington University,  
*Experiential Education and Jewish Cultural Arts M.A. candidate*  
Michael frequently led walking tours of downtown DC and the Jewish sites of Arlington National Cemetery.

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**Archival Support**  
Jodi Kanter  
Elsie Klumpner  
Merrill Lavine  
Katrina Wioncek

**Office Support**  
Stanton Abramson  
Don Budowsky  
John Tolleris  
Joel Wind

**Speakers’ Bureau, Walking Tours, and Event Volunteers**  
Stanton Abramson  
Donna Bassin  
Les Bergen  
Beth Cooper  
Elissa Frankle  
Stanley Gonzalez-Martinez  
Mark Livingston  
Denise Oken  
Stephanie Silverstein  
Joel Wind  
Katrina Wioncek  
Tami Wolf  
Marlene Zakai

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**VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT**

Les Bergen is one of the Society’s longest-serving and hardest-working volunteers. A native of Charlotte, NC, Les has lived in Arlington, Virginia and been a member of Agudas Achim Congregation since the mid-1970s.

Les served active duty and in the Army Reserves as an Engineer Officer, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. He was a design engineer for the Metro system, and later worked as a civilian for the Army Corps of Engineers and Headquarters, U.S. Army.

Les is a former Board member and Treasurer of the Society and continues to serve as a Trustee and a member of both the Finance and Collections Committees. Les’s passion for military history inspired him to help the Society develop walking tours of Jewish sites at Arlington National Cemetery and the accompanying Pocket Guide. He continues to lead walking tours and is in high demand as a member of our Speakers Bureau for his lively presentations on Jewish history.

Les and Jane Bergen at the Guardian luncheon, 2016.
After 22 years, Laura Apelbaum stepped down this year from her position as the Executive Director of the Jewish Historical Society.

Laura’s long tenure was marked by countless accomplishments and she leaves an indelible imprint on every aspect of the organization. Her tireless efforts are responsible for the Society’s creative programming, exhibitions, and publications, our focus on serving children and youth, our numerous partnerships with other local and national cultural organizations, and our strong base of support in the community. It is in large measure due to Laura’s guidance that the Society stands on the threshold of a new transformation, and we remain indebted to her for her years of outstanding service.

We are especially grateful to Laura & Perry Apelbaum for creating the Faye F. & Sheldon S. Cohen Endowment Fund. This new Fund will be used in support of research and programming on themes around the topic of the federal government and politics.